The export figures beyond December, 1992 are not yet available.

(c) No target ha* been fixed for export of aluminium during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

Imports without payments of Duties against Exports

3318. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have got an ongoing scheme allowing imports without payment of duties against exports;

(b) if so, what is the number of such importers and the conditions imposed for licensing/permitting such imports;

(c) whether it is obligatory for such importers to commence exports within nine months or any other stipulated period;

(d) what is the number of importers availing this facility who have failed to export despite extensions; and

(e) whether the duty recovered from them is as prevailling on the date of import or the applicable duty on the date of payment ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The Import Policy 1992-97 provides for grant of advance licences for duty free import of raw material, component parts etc. (popularly called inputs) for the manufacture and export of various products. These licences also impose export obligations which are to be achieved within the specified period. The terms and conditions attached to these licences, period allowed for fulfilling export obligations are given in the relevant paragraphs of the said chapter, as well as in the Chapter-VII and the relevant paras of the Handbook of Procedures 1992-97. Copies of both of Export-Import Policy 1992-97 and Handbook of Procedures are available in the Library of the Parliament.

(d) A preliminary assessment made recently indicates that in only 747 cases, exporters have been declared defaulters which is only 1.52% of the number of licences issued. In addition, enforcement action has been initiated in only 732 cases which constitutes 1.5% of the number of licences issued.

(e) The duty is recovered as per the rates prevailing on the date of imports made by exporters.

Participation in Auction Platforms of Tobacco Board

3319. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of bidder participating on each auction platform of Tobacco board;

(a) what is the number of them who I are purchasing;

(c) what are the reasons for the passive participation of the bidders; and

(d) what are the details of steps being taken to review their active participation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN

AHMED) : (a) and (b) The platform wise purchased in Andhra auctions as on number of bidders who participated and 13-3-1993 are as follows:—

Name of the Platform	No. of bidders participated	Name of bidders purchased
Bhadrachalam-I	13	5
Bhadrachalam-II	13	6
Nandigama	15	7
Kanchikacherla	16	6
Guntur	16	7
Rangampet	11	5
Thorredu	15	6
Kapavaram	10	6
Devarapalli	19	10
Jangareddigudem	19	8
Vellampalli	22	11
Ongole-I	21	9
Podili	33	15
Ongole-II	21	12
Tangutur-I	24	5
Tangutur-II	23	11
Kandukur	23	10
Kaligiri	23	12
D. C. Palli	22	11
Koyyolagudem	20	8
Chilakaluripet	14	8

(c) Some of the reason* attributed to the passive participation of the bidders are :—

—wants of adequate preparatory gap for buyers between closure of Karnataka auctions and commencement of Andhra auctions.

—Domestic cigerette Manufacturers not specifying their requirement.

— Delay and uncertainty in opening of Letters of Credit by Russia under the 1992 Trade Protocol for 10,000 MT of tobacco.

— Lack of clear indications from Russia about their requirement of black soil tobacco.

—inadequate orders from other major importers.

— Excess production of tobacco over the authorised quantity in Andhra Pradesh which has its impact on trader psychology and buying ferver.

(d) Steps taken to revive active buyer participation include release of the Technical Credit to Russia, meetings with exporters and domeatic cigarette manufacturers, sending of trade delegation to Russia etc.

Functioning of Tobacco Auction Platform

3320. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) when are the tobacco auction platforms opened;

(b) what is the quantity sold;

(c) what is the number of bales offered and how many are rejected for want of bidders; and

(d) what is the average price for different grades ?